

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 01667 231248Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

/026 W

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P 231230Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2795

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CE

SUBJ: FY-1975 IVP GRANTEES ANURA BANDARANAIKE AND

A V RATWATTE

REF: STATE 119024; COLOMBO 1140

1. BECAUSE MAY 22 WAS REPUBLIC DAY, WE WERE UNABLE TO GET ANURA BANDARANAIKE'S REACTION TO PROGRAM SET FORTH REFTEL UNTIL TODAY. HE TERMED IT "EXCELLENT".

2. WE THINK IT IS FINE AND HAVE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

3. WE WISH REAFFIRM REQUEST CONTAINED COLOMBO 1140 THAT ANURA RECEIVE AS HIGH-LEVEL TREATMENT IN WASHINGTON AS POSSIBLE. SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD HOPE FOR BRIEF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OR CALL ON VICE PRESIDENT AND IN ANY EVENT A DISCUSSION WITH THE SECRETARY, AT WHICH AMB KANAKARATNE WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT.

4. WE LIKE OKLAHOMA CITY AND PLANNED MEETING WITH YOUNG GOVERNOR GOREN. WE WOULD WISH HIM ALSO TO MEET OTHER GOVERNOR(S) OR MAYORS.

IN THIS CONNECTION, COLGATE

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PRENTICE, SPECIAL ASSISTANT IN PA

RESPONSIBLE FOR LIAISON WITH STATE GOVERNMENTS,
MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP.

5. CONGRESSMAN JOHN JARMAN, OKLAHOMA (FIFTH
DISTRICT), LED US DELEGATION TO IPU SPRING
MESNINGS HERE IN EARLY APRIL AND MIGHT BE WILLING
MEET ANURA OR ASSIST IN HIS PROGRAM IN SOME WAY.

6. RE OVERSEAS MISSION TV SHOW, WE BELIEVE JUNE 3
IS TOO EARLY FOR SUCH ACTIVITY GIVEN ANURA'S DESIRE
TO CUT BACK ON PUBLIC APPEARANCES. AS NOTED
COLOMBO 1551, HOWEVER, SITUATION MAY CHANGE AS
HE BECOMES ACCUSTOMED TO UNITED STATES, SO THAT
SOMETHING OF THAT NATURE MIGHT TAKE PLACE AT LATER
STOP.

7. IN GENERAL, WE WOULD STRESS AGAIN THAT ANURA'S
PROGRAM SHOULD, IN ADDITION TO EXPOSING HIM TO
AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS AND CROSS-SECTION OF
AMERICAN PEOPLE, SHOW HIM AMERICAN CONCERN FOR
DEVELOPING WORLD.

8. RE ANURUDDHA RATWATTE, AS STATED COLOMBO 1610,
HIS PROGRAM SHOULD BE IDENTICAL TO ANURA'S WITH
ADDITION OF BRIEFINGS FROM US SECRET SERVICE
IN WASHINGTON IN CONNECTION HIS RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR SECURITY DURING NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT HERE IN
AUGUST 1976.

9. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND INCLUSION OF RATWATTE AT ALL
FUNCTIONS BECAUSE OTHERWISE THERE WOULD BE EMBARRASSMENT
TO ALL INVOLVED. HE IS RISING YOUNG POLITICIAN
IN OWN RIGHT, RAN FOR SENKADAGALA (KANDY) SEAT IN
1970, LOST BY ONLY 300 VOTES, AND IS LIKELY TO RUN
AGAIN IN 1977. WE TRUST THINGS CAN BE WORKED OUT.
VAN HOLLEN

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